

## **COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY**

**April 17, 2001**

**6:00 PM**

In the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk called the meeting to order at the appropriate time.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Vaillancourt, Pariseau

Absent: Aldermen Clancy and Hirschmann

Messrs: J. Hoben, Lt. Tracy, Alderman Shea

The Clerk noted that in the absence of the Chairman, a motion is in order to elect a Chairman Pro-Tem.

Alderman Pariseau moved to elect Alderman Sysyn Chairman Pro-Tem.  
Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Deputy Clerk Johnson called for a vote. The motion carried with Alderman Vaillancourt being duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Pariseau asked isn't it customary that the second name on the agenda always assumes the Chairmanship and there is no need for a vote.

Deputy Clerk Johnson answered no.

Alderman Sysyn stated I think we did this before though.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the rules call for electing a Chairman Pro Tem. That is the normal process that you follow.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked how is the second person named on the agendas here. Is there a system for naming a second? It is not alphabetical order. I wonder what kind of order it is.

Deputy Clerk Johnson answered the system that is on there is the way they were appointed to the Committee by the Mayor initially.

Alderman Pariseau stated it has always been second named on the agenda in the absence of the Chairman.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied well I am just wondering how these are appointed in this particular order. It is not alphabetical.

Deputy Clerk Johnson responded it is chosen by the Mayor. That is how it is chosen. The Mayor appoints the committees and we list them exactly as the Mayor gives them to the Board and they will stay that way for the entire session.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated the names are just put in by the Mayor for no particular reason...it is not alphabetical order.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied you would have to ask the Mayor that, Alderman Vaillancourt. We don't set the Committee membership. That is set by the Mayor at the beginning of his term.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated what I am doing is making a point if I might. The point is that these are not alphabetically obviously. They are not by seniority because I am listed third and I am obviously last in seniority so I am not sure if these were anything other than random selections.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied they were selections made by the Mayor and that is the way we continue to list them.

Alderman Pariseau stated he named democrats first and republicans last.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied I didn't think City government ruled on a partisan basis. I thought City government ruled on a non-partisan basis.

Deputy Clerk Johnson asked, Madam Chair, do you want to continue the meeting.

Chairman Sysyn answered yes.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Ratify and confirm polls conducted as follows:

- a) a request of the Traffic Department to install parking meter pipes for 10-hour parking meters in non-residential areas surrounding the civic center; and
- b) a request for the closure of various streets in conjunction with "The Friendship Run", scheduled on Saturday, April 14th from 9:00 to

11:00 AM.

Alderman O'Neil asked has anybody talked to...I ran into someone over the weekend who takes a bus from the bus terminal and apparently the majority of the Manchester residents taking the buses to Boston and other destinations park on some of these streets because there are no spaces available in the Granite Street garage. This is the information that was passed on to me. Has anyone contacted these people to see where they are going to be able to park now?

Alderman Vaillancourt asked is that relevant regarding a ratification of a poll that was conducted.

Alderman O'Neil answered it certainly is relevant when a hardship is going to be created for Manchester residents when there is no alternative for them to park.

Chairman Sysyn asked, Mr. Hoben, have you heard anything from these people.

Mr. Hoben answered our guys started on Elm Street and one person came out and said well now we are going to have to pay for parking. We did Elm Street from Valley to Auburn. Now we wanted to go ahead and install the pipes. The meters have not been approved. They are not going in until it comes up for discussion.

Alderman O'Neil asked has anyone from the City tried to...

Chairman Sysyn interjected how would they know who they are.

Alderman O'Neil asked can somebody go down when the buses leave or something or put something up on the wall and let them know that these changes are coming and what other...it is nothing to do with their willingness to pay. It has to do with what alternatives do they have if they take a bus from the bus terminal on Granite and Canal. Can they park at the Rubenstein Lot? Do we have any plan for how to address that, Jim?

Mr. Hoben answered as I said there will be no free parking in the Millyard.

Alderman O'Neil stated it has nothing to do with free parking. Somehow have we made an effort to contact the people that take the buses to let them know that they will not be able to park on any of those streets and an alternative parking spot would be Rubenstein...

Chairman Sysyn interjected can't they park at any of those meters.

Alderman O'Neil answered they certainly could.

Chairman Sysyn asked are they eight hour meters.

Mr. Hoben answered there are no meter heads on now. It is just pipes.

Alderman O'Neil stated this goes back to this whole parking issue. We need to take everyone...not just the civic center people into consideration. There are people...residents of the City of Manchester and I am going to end on this...Jim can you somehow communicate through the bus lines or whatever to the people who take the buses that those are going to be metered spaces and they need to find alternative parking and those alternative parking spots could be Rubenstein or whatever it may be?

Mr. Hoben replied they can park there.

Alderman O'Neil responded I understand that but 10 hours is 40 quarters. It has nothing to do with their willingness to pay. It is the practicality of it.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated this entire argument should come up under another point of business. This motion is simply to ratify a poll that was conducted. As I understand it polls and it does say on the sheet, are taken and you have to express your opposition by a certain time. If anyone wants to bring this to the full Board you can, but this is totally out of order at this particular point.

Alderman Pariseau moved to ratify and confirm the polls conducted. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Pariseau asked could we refer this item to the civic center special parking committee.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked do you want to refer this item or do you want to refer a separate item. I don't believe the ratification of this poll is what you want to refer there.

Chairman Sysyn answered he wants the concern about the people who are parking and riding to be referred there.

Mr. Hoben stated we will be proposing a whole parking package in May. We can send a communication to the bus terminals, but as far as free parking...

Alderman O'Neil interjected it has nothing to do with free parking. Does part of the plan you are going to present include the people who take the buses to Boston? That is the point. It has nothing to do with free parking.

Mr. Hoben stated we can point out parking spaces that are available. There are spaces currently available on Pleasant Street behind the terminal and on Bedford Street north of Granite. No one parks there.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Discussion relative to use of scooters within City limits.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated that was an item that was referred from the Board based on a discussion from Alderman Shea. He was concerned about scooters in the City coming into the summer season.

Alderman Pariseau asked aren't there some ordinances on scooters on City sidewalks.

Deputy Clerk Johnson answered there is one on skateboards. I guess what you could do is have the police review it and report back to the Committee.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated maybe we should table this until Alderman Shea and the police and other members of the Committee are here.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to table this item.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Presentation by the Police Department regarding a reduction in posted speed limits in the City.

- a) Communication from the Chief of Police submitting a proposal to reduce the city-wide speed limit from 30 to 25 mph.

Alderman Pariseau moved to receive and file this item. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I was reluctant to do that because I thought it would be impolite not to listen to their proposal. Are they ready for a proposal?

Lt. Tracy stated this Chief asked that this be tabled. Apparently as we all know Mr. Lolicata is not with us and they asked...he expressed a desire to be present during that presentation and the Chief certainly respects and understands how important it would be for Mr. Lolicata to be here so the Chief just asked if this could be tabled.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I think we know, Madam Chair, Mr. Lolicata's position and I think I could argue his point of view as could the rest of us. Are the Police going to present their side or are you planning to do that?

Lt. Tracy replied the Chief had a desire to be here and was told that it was not going to be presented at this meeting based on Mr. Lolicata's current health condition.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked who told him that.

Lt. Tracy answered I don't know the answer to that but he may have had some communication from Alderman Clancy.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked does the Clerk have any knowledge of that.

Deputy Clerk Johnson answered no. Perhaps Mr. Hoben does.

Mr. Hoben stated Tom had a couple of things that he wanted to bring in. He has new information on speed reduction. He wanted the Committee to hold off until he could come back and present it to you.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated well I am not in need of hearing Mr. Lolicata's position. I think I concur with it. I don't need any new information. I was prepared to vote on this and did vote on it at the Board meeting. I was going to be willing to sit here and listen to the presentation tonight out of respect and there was nothing that could have been presented by the Police to change my mind so I don't see any reason to table this.

Alderman Pariseau stated I withdraw my motion to receive and file and move to table this item. Chairman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. The motion carried with Alderman Vaillancourt being duly recorded in opposition.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Communication from the Director of Information Services requesting 7 to

11 parking spaces in the Pine Street Parking Lot for Information Systems Department employees.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt it was voted to deny this request.

Mr. Hoben stated that last item shouldn't have come in to the Committee. It was something that Mr. Lolicata took care of.

Chairman Sysyn asked what did Mr. Lolicata do.

Mr. Hoben answered he issued 10 permits in the Pine Street parking lot and 6 on-street downtown permits.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated it was a letter addressed to the Committee on March 20 and we received it and placed it on the Committee agenda. We had no notification from Mr. Lolicata that he had addressed it nor from Ms. Prew. I don't know what to tell you. Do you want to rescind your previous action?

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 7 of the agenda:

Request of Lt. Richard Tracy of the Traffic Division of the Manchester Police Department for approval of the department's participation in the "Join the New Hampshire Clique" Seat Belt Enforcement Program.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Communication from Mary Sartwell, on behalf of CIGNA HealthCare of New Hampshire, requesting the closure of Merrimack Street, from Elm to Chestnut, beginning at 2:00 PM in conjunction with the 9th Annual CIGNA HealthCare Corporate Road Race on Thursday, August 9, 2001.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 9 of the agenda:

Communication from the Hanover Street Merchants Association requesting

the closure of Hanover Street, from Elm to Chestnut, beginning at 12:00 PM on Friday, June 8th and reopening Hanover Street on Sunday, June 10th at 6:00 PM in conjunction with the First Annual Manchester Jazz and Blues Festival.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 10 of the agenda:

Communication from Fred Harris, President of Riverfest requesting the closure of the Arms Parking Lot from Tuesday, September 4, 2001 up to and including Monday, September 10, 2001, and further that those vehicles possessing valid Arms Park lease stickers be allowed to park "free of charge" in either the Canal Street or Wall Street parking garages during this time.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

**CENTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE GARAGE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE  
PARKING SPACES:**

Section 1a southwest corner, south wall 3 spaces  
Section 1h northeast corner – north wall 3 spaces (1 van accessible)  
Section 2e northwest corner – by elevator – 1 space  
Section 2f southwest corner by elevator – 1 space  
Section 2f northeast corner – east wall 3 spaces (2 van accessible)  
Section 2h northeast corner – north wall – 3 spaces  
Section 2b – southwest corner – west wall – 2 spaces  
Section 3d – northeast corner – north wall – 1 space  
Section 3d – northwest corner – north wall – 1 space  
Section 3c – northwest corner – west wall – 1 space  
Section 3b – southwest corner – west wall – 1 space  
Section 3a – southwest corner – south wall – 1 space

Alderman Levasseur

**NO PARKING:**

On Eastern Ave. west side from Old Wellington Road to Karatzas Ave.

Alderman Pinard

On Mammoth Road west side from Lake Ave. to a point 100 feet south

Alderman Clancy

**NO TRUCKS:**

On Cedar Street from Lincoln to Wilson

Alderman Clancy

On Balch Avenue from Boynton to So. Main Street

Alderman Cashin

**NO PARKING ANYTIME (EMERGENCY ACT):**

On Trenton Street, north side from Elm to North Bay Street

Alderman Wihby

**RESCIND NO PARKING:**

On Trenton Street, north side from Elm Street to a point 135 feet east

Alderman Wihby

**RESCIND ONE-WAY STREET:**

On Balch Avenue from So. Main Street to Boynton westbound

Alderman Cashin

**RESCIND STOP SIGNS:**

On Balch Avenue at Boynton Street, SEC

On Balch Avenue at So. Main Street, SWC

Alderman Cashin

**NO TRUCKS - 9:30 PM to 7:00 AM:**

On Boynton Street from So. Main Street to Bedford Town Line

Alderman Cashin

**RESCIND TWO-HOUR PARKING:**

Arms Parking Lot area - driveway along river - north end (4 spaces)

Alderman Levasseur

**10-HOUR PARKING METERS:**

Arms Parking Lot area - driveway along river - north end (5 spaces)

Alderman Levasseur

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES:**

Arms Parking Lot - south end of lot - 8 spaces including one van accessible

Arms Parking Lot - driveway along river across from arch (3spaces) including one van accessible

Alderman Levasseur

**CROSSWALK:**

On Second Street, north of McQuesten Street  
Alderman Cashin

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve the traffic agenda as presented.

**TABLE ITEM**

12. Copy of a communication from the Public Works Director to Rich Davis recommending an alternative to a request for the discontinuance of Hampshire Lane between Stark and Mechanic Streets.  
(Tabled 10/3/00)

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to remove this item from the table.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked can we go back, since Alderman Shea is here can we go back to Item 4 and discuss that.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to remove Item 4 from the table.

Discussion relative to use of scooters within City limits.

Alderman Shea stated I received a fax from Leo Bernier today. It is the City of Portsmouth ordinance and actually Leo did send it...I did ask him to forward it and I will forward it to you. There are certain items on here that are appropriate. He did indicate that this did not pass over in Portsmouth. In other words they discussed it but it was not approved. There are certain items here pertaining to scooter regulations that I think are...the Committee could look over. It has to do with certain items such as manner and speed of operation, equipment that might be required, nighttime use and observance of traffic regulations. Some of the other items that they had as far as Chapter 7 III Section 7.347 seemed to me to be a little bit difficult in light of the fact that there are probably areas on parts of this that don't seem to me to make too much sense. What I would like to do is have the Committee look it over and see what it says and then make judgments on it. I appreciate your time.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated if you are going to consider doing something like that you are obviously going to want input from the Police Department and others and you are going to need to have some ordinance prepared to look at so my suggestion might be that you refer it to the Traffic Division of the Police Department and they can review it with the Solicitor and perhaps Alderman Shea as well and then bring it back.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to table this item and refer it to the Traffic Division of the Police Department, City Solicitor and that they confer with Alderman Shea and come back to the Committee with a recommendation.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee